

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Due to the length of the specification herein, Applicants will cite to the paragraph number of the published patent application (PG Pub) of the present application, i.e., US 2006/0166845, when discussing the application description, both in this section and in the Remarks section, *infra*, rather than to page and line of the specification as filed.

Claims 1 and 2 have each been amended to recite that each of the recited components may contain more than one of the recited component, respectively, as supported in the specification at paragraphs [0011], [0013], [0028], and [0036], combined.

Claim 4 has been amended by changing “type” to --based--.

New Claims 8-20 have been added. Claims 8 and 9 are supported in the specification at paragraphs [0011], [0013] and [0028], combined. Claim 10 is supported at paragraph [0010]. Claim 11 is supported at paragraph [0012]. Claim 12 is supported at paragraph [0035]. Claims 13 and 14 are supported at paragraph [0036]. Claim 15 is supported at paragraph [0050]. Claims 16-19 are supported in the specification at paragraphs [0040] and [0048], combined. Claim 20 is supported in the specification throughout, such as in paragraph [0055].

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. Claims 1-20 are now pending in the application.

REMARKS

The rejection of Claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by WO 03/066007 (Marchioretto et al), is respectfully traversed. Marchioretto et al has a publication date of August 14, 2003. The present application, on the other hand, is a national stage application of an international application filed August 8, 2003. Applicants are automatically entitled to this date. See 35 U.S.C. § 363 and MPEP § 1893.03(b). The Examiner has apparently used the date of entry into the national stage, i.e., the date on which all the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) were complied with, as the filing date, which is clearly in error. Thus, Marchioretto et al is not prior art herein. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over US 5,855,625 (Maurer et al) in view of US 6,171,515 (Evans et al), is respectfully traversed. Maurer et al is drawn to a laundry detergent composition but, as the Examiner acknowledges, does not disclose a silicone derivative of the type recited as Component (c) herein. The Examiner thus relies on Evans et al, which discloses a fiber treatment composition containing such a silicone derivative, described as applicable to fibers during the making of the fibers, during making of fabric from the fibers, or later, such as during laundering the fabric (column 7, lines 55-57).

The Examiner holds that it would have been obvious to employ the silicone derivative of Evans et al in the laundry detergent composition of Maurer et al.

In reply, while Evans et al discloses that their fiber treatment composition may be employed during laundering, this is not the same thing as combining the laundry detergent components and fiber treatment components in the same composition. Indeed, this is highlighted by the fact that Evans et al discloses that their fiber treatment composition may contain one or more optional ingredients including as ingredient (c), one or more surfactants

which are selected from the group consisting of cationic and nonionic surfactants (column 6, line 11ff, especially lines 19-21). Anionic surfactants are conspicuously absent. In effect, Evans et al teaches against the presence of an anionic surfactant in combination with their silicone derivative. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would not combine the silicone derivative of Evans et al with a laundry detergent composition comprising an anionic surfactant.

Claims 16-20 are separately patentable, since one skilled in the art would not add an oil component to a laundry composition (Claims 16-19) nor would one skilled in the art use a laundry composition to wash hair (Claim 20).

For all the above reasons, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over US 6,506,261 (Man) in view of Evans et al, is respectfully traversed. Man discloses detergent compositions for removing complex organic or greasy soils from hard surfaces, such as laundry. The disclosures and deficiencies of Evans et al have been discussed above, and are herein incorporated by reference. Indeed, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have combined Evans et al with Man, for the same reasons that one skilled in the art would not have combined Evans et al with Maurer et al. Similarly, Claims 16-20 are separately patentable. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over US 5,137,715 (Hoshowski et al) in view of Marchioretto et al, is respectfully traversed. Hoshowski et al is drawn to a hair shampoo-conditioner composition containing an alkyl sulfate or alkyl ether sulfate anionic surfactant, and a particular polymeric conditioning compound (column 1, line 7ff). Hoshowski et al discloses the addition of various acids to adjust pH (column 13, line 40ff). However, as acknowledged by the Examiner, Hoshowski et al does not disclose a silicone derivative of the type recited in the present claims. The

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Examiner thus relies on Marchioretto et al. However, as discussed above, Marchioretto et al is not prior art herein. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully traversed. Indeed, the rejection would now appear to be moot in view of the above-discussed amendment. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

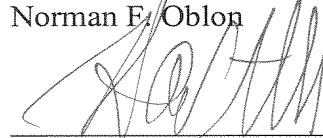
Applicants respectfully call the Examiner's attention to the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed July 5, 2007. The Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the Form PTO 1449 submitted therewith, and include a copy thereof with the next Office communication.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the presently-pending claims in this application are now in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Norman E. Oblon



Harris A. Pitlick
Registration No. 38,779

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 03/06)

NFO:HAP\la